

Appl. No.: 09/741,747
Amdt. Dated: 12/17/2004
Off. Act. Dated: 03/16/2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the allowance of Claims 4-10, the Applicant has canceled rejected Claims 11-16. Claims 1-3 were previously canceled.

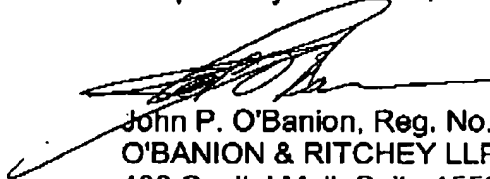
In view of the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

The Applicant has taken this action in order expedite issuance of the currently allowed claims. By taking this action, however, the Applicant does not acquiesce in the ground(s) for rejection of the canceled claims. Cancellation of Claims 11-16 is without prejudice, waiver, or estoppel, and without forfeiture or dedication to the public, with respect to the subject matter of those claims. The Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original scope of any canceled or amended in the future, such as through continuation practice for example.

In the event any further matters remain at issue with respect to the present application, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner please contact the undersigned below at the telephone number indicated in order to discuss such matters.

Date: 3/16/05

Respectfully submitted,



John P. O'Banion, Reg. No. 33,201
O'BANION & RITCHEY LLP
400 Capitol Mall, Suite 1550
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 498-1010